

RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 403
King County, Washington
September 1, 1993 Through August 31, 1994

Schedule Of Federal Findings

1. District Officials Should Comply With Special Education Program Requirements

Our audit of the Special Education Grant Program (CFDA 84.027, Superintendent of Public Instruction Award Numbers 31141 and 30051) disclosed 10 of the 25 student participants tested had not been reviewed for reassessment by multidisciplinary teams (MDT) within the required 3-year period. The reassessment process determines whether or not the student's eligibility in the program may continue.

Title 34 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR), Part 300.534(b), states in part:

... an evaluation of a child ... is conducted every three years or more frequently if conditions warrant or if the child's parent or teacher requests an evaluation.

WAC 392-171-512 states in part:

Each identified student having a handicapping condition shall be reassessed ... by the multidisciplinary team ... at a minimum, once every three years or more frequently if required by this chapter.

District officials indicated a shortage of qualified personnel interfered with the district's ability to conduct reassessment reviews in accordance with the federal and state time requirements.

Student eligibility for the program is jeopardized when district officials neglect to conduct reassessment reviews within the required timeframe. Failure to perform these reassessments could result in ineligible individuals receiving benefits under the program. District officials are working with Puget Sound Educational Service District program monitors to improve reassessment procedures. Due to the nature of the program, we were unable to establish the amount of costs associated with the exceptions noted and therefore have not questioned costs related to this issue.

We recommend district officials reassess Special Education Program students in compliance with federal and state regulations.

We further recommend district officials consult the Superintendent of Public Instruction in resolving this issue.